Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-10 ISO-00 STR-04 SSO-00 NSCE-00

USIE-00 INRE-00 AGR-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

FRB-03 H-02 INR-07 INT-05 L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 AID-05 CIEP-01 SS-15 TAR-01 TRSE-00 PRS-01

SP-02 FEAE-00 OMB-01 AF-06 ARA-06 EA-07 NEA-10 OIC-02

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FM USDEL MTN GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 772

INFO USMISSION EC BRUSSELS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY ROME PRIORITY

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MTN GENEVA 8586

E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: ETRD, MTN

SUBJECT: MTN AGRICULTURAL IMPASSE UPDATE

REF: A) MTN GENEVA 8106; B) BONN 18434

1. BEGIN SUMMARY: THE EC HAS NOT YET AGREED INTERNALLY TO ACCEPT DENT/SOAMES COMPROMISE LANGUAGE. FRENCH STILL HOLDING OUT FIRMLY. EC MTN DEL "HOPED" IT WOULD BE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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RESOLVED BEFORE WASHINGTON CONSULTATIONS BEGIN NEXT WEEK.

EC WANTS TO BE ABLE TO SAY IN WASHINGTON CONSULTATIONS
THAT IT HAS AGREED TO THE COMPROMISE AND AVOID HAVING
TO REOPEN THE ISSUE. U.S. EXPRESSED CONCERN OVER FRENCH
INTERPRETATION OF MAY 8 COMPROMISE LANGUAGE. END SUMMARY.

- 2. LUYTEN TELEPHONED AMBASSADOR WALKER TODAY TO ADVISE THAT THE COREPER MEETING TODAY IN BRUSSELS DID NOT PRODUCE AGREEMENT TO DENT/SOAMES MEETING COMPROMISE TEXT. HE REITERATED CONFIDENCE THAT COMPROMISE WOULD ULTIMATELY BE ACCEPTED AND HOPED HIS OPTIMISM, THIS TIME, WOULD BE JUSTIFIED. HE REPORTED HIJZEN AS BEING CONFIDENT THAT IT WILL BE SOLVED IN THE NEXT FEW DAYS AND BEFORE THE MEETING IN WASHINGTON, AS A RESULT OF BILATERAL CONTACTS WITHIN THE EC.
- 3. LUYTEN REPORTED THE EC HOPES TO AVOID REOPENING IN WASHINGTON THE MATTERS PREVIOUSLY AGREED TO AND THAT THE COMMISSION HAS BEEN "STEADFASTLY" OPPOSING FRENCH EFFORTS TO MODIFY THE TEXT. IN PARTICULAR, HE REEMPHASIZED THE POINT THAT THE COMMISSION DOES NOT INTERPRET THE TERM "COLLABORATE" TO MEAN JOINT MEETINGS THOUGH HE KNOWS U.S. NOT PRECLUDED FROM CALLING FOR JOINT MEETINGS.
- 4. THE FRENCH ARE STILL THE HOL-OUT, THOUGH, ACCORDING TO LUYTEN, THEY ARE NO LONGER SERIOUSLY SUPPORTED BY THE IRISH OR THE BELGIANS.
- 5. AMBASSADOR WALKER RAISED WITH LUYTEN U.S. UNDERSTANDING THAT FRENCH NOW PLACING INTERPRETATION UPON THE TERM "GLOBAL ISSUES" WHICH FLY DIRECTLY IN THE FACE OF THE MAY 8 COMPROMISE ITSELF (REFS A AND B). LUYTEN REPLIED THAT THE TERM "GLOBAL" HAD NOT BEEN DEFINED IN THE MAY 8 COMPROMISE AND SAID THAT THE COMMISSION HAD AVOIDED SEEKING TO DEFINE IT IN THE INTERNAL DELIBERATIONS THEY WERE NOW HAVING WITH THE MEMBER STATES. HE ACKNOWLEDGED THAT THE FRENCH HAD ADVANCED A VERY NARROW DEFINITION OF THE TERM, BUT EMPHASIZED THAT THE COMMISSION HAD SOUGHT TO AVOID RESOLVING THAT ISSUE IN THIS CONTTEXT. AMBASSADOR WALKER ADVISED LUYTEN THAT HE SHOUDL UNDERSTAND THE FRENCH POSITION RAISED A NEW SET OF UNCERTAINTIES WHICH WERE OF GRAVE CONCERN TO THE UNITED STATES, AND THAT IF THE FRENCH PERSISTED IN THEIR VIEW, THE COMPROMISE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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"WOULDN'T LAST TEN MINUTES."

6. IN SEPARATE CONVERSATION FRENCH REP (COLMANT), SAID POINT UNACCEPTABLE TO FRANCE IS WORD "COLLABORATE" AND ANY WORD THAT CONVEYED NOTION OF JOINT MEETINGS WOULD BE EQUALLY UNACCEPTABLE SINCE SUCH A CONCEPT WOULD BE INCONSISTENT WITH INTERNAL EC MANDATE FOR MTN CONCERNING AUTONOMY FOR AGRICULTURAL NEGOTIATIONS. COLMANT SAID HE WAS AWARE SOME

CONSIDERATION HAD BEEN GIVEN IN BRUSSELS TO POSSIBILITY OF EC ACCEPTANCE OF SOAMES/DENT TEXT COUPLED WITH A SEPARATE INTERNAL EC DOCUMENT CONFIRMING MEMBER STATES INTERPRETATION THAT COLLABORATE DOES NOT MEAN JOINT MEETINGS BUT THAT THIS IDEA AHD BEEN DROPPED AS "UNFAIR TO THE AMERICANS." COLMANT SUGGESTED THERE WAS REALLY NO NEED FOR ANY NEW TEXT (WHICH WE OF COURSE REBUTTED). COLMANT PROFESSED NOT TO KNOW ABOUT ANY PROCEDURAL STEPS IN IMMEDIATE FUTURE TO TRY TO RESOLVE ISSUE AND SIAD HE COULD NOT IMAGINE TOPIC BEING RAISED AT ECONOMIC SUMMIT.WALKER

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